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25X1A

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

6. About 20 biplanes, which were never seen flying, and two large twin-engine transports were stationed at the field. There were also about 20 twin-engine aircraft, called light bombers by Soviet workers. The front and upper sections of the nose of these planes were plexiglass. They had a great climbing speed. Ten to twelve small single-engine aircraft, called German fighters by Soviet workers, with great speed and climbing quality, were also stationed at the field. About 30 small, single-engine, high-wing monoplanes completed the field occupation. Ten planes of this latter type were unloaded from railroad cars in July 1948.
7. Fighters and bombers flew regularly in formations of three or nine planes. Two or three planes practiced firing at towed sleeve targets at the same time. Parachuting was observed on several consecutive days in August 1948. Eighteen parachutists jumped from each of the two transports. \*\* The flying and ground personnel was trucked from Grozny every day.
8. An airfield for gliders was from 1,700 to 2,000 meters southwest of Stary-Ironysla and 3 to 4 km northwest of the airfield. After June 1949, two biplanes, some two-seat gliders (about 3 1/2 meters long, wing span 5 meters) and one fighter were parked at the field. Ten fighters with escorting personnel arrived in late September 1949. The personnel said that the planes came from Rostov. More aircraft were expected to arrive since a new airfield was reported to be under construction. \*\*\* The gliders were towed by biplanes and then released. It was not observed that the new fighters made flights. Three flight instructors and 20 pilot students were quartered in tents. The personnel of the newly arrived fighters moved into a vacant house at the railroad station.

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The airfield north of the town is known from available records as an operational air base. From the occupation mostly by twin-engine bombers it is concluded that a bomber regiment is stationed there.

25X1A \*\* ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment.

The airfield northwest of the town, reported for the first time, is obviously an operational air base occupied by a pilot school. For location and field layout see Annex. Pilot training at the airfield northwest of the town is possibly connected with the pilot school observed in Grozny.

25X1A \*\*\* ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ Comment.

The information on improvement work at the airfield for gliders, possibly as an operational base for fighters, requires confirmation.

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Paragraph 5. It has not been possible to locate the towns mentioned.

Attachment: Sketch of Grozny Airfield

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